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July 10, 1967

(copy of Intelligence Information Cable [REDACTED])

Country: North Vietnam

EO 12958 3.4(b)(1)>25Yrs  
(C)

Subject: Conditions in Hanoi

Source: [REDACTED]

EO 12958 3.4(b)(1)>25Yrs  
(C)

1. This is the hot season in Hanoi and there is also a drought which broke on the night of 8-9 July. There was no evidence to confirm the allegation made by the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (DRV) Ministry of Water Conservancy on 4 July that the United States Air Force was intensifying strikes against dikes and irrigation works. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Confirmation of serious damage to the dikes or of flooding. Electric power in Hanoi has been cut by districts about three times a week, except for that used by key enterprises, in order that irrigation works could be supplied. An increasing number of generators have relieved the power station. Water functions generally and is working better than it was in May, although emergency wells are widespread. Bus, tram and railway services are crowded but adequate.

2. The morale of the working population is now cheerful and relaxed. Women, babies and old people suffer but are powerless to do anything. [REDACTED] this adaptable, disciplined peasant people will not act differently from those in other towns of North Vietnam already ruined.) Food is tight but it is not at sub-nutrition level. Military and other stores arrived through Communist China at least until 2 July, including 13 heavy AA guns with crews. Six guns were being towed by tracked vehicles from the railroad station on the night of 8-9 July.)

3. [REDACTED] the government [REDACTED] still shaken by the Soviet attitude in the Middle East crisis, [REDACTED] there was a vague rumor that the government party was seriously split while the Middle East crisis was going on, but the specific personalities or issues involved could not be identified.)

4. [REDACTED]

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4. Ho Chi Minh, President of the DRV, did not appear for the May Day celebrations, nor did he appear for the 19 May celebration of his own birthday. For the latter, there was a photograph of him in the newspaper dressed in winter clothing.

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